2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Emergency Readiness/ Response

Country: MALDIVES
Date: 5/03/2020

Cases reporting

- NO confirmed case of COVID-19 in the country as of 5th March 2020.
- 2 Maldivian - a mother and her 1-year old daughter are currently in isolation in Farukolhufushi island for 14 days as they traveled from China with no symptoms.
- 2 Maldivians living in Wuhan evacuated to India for 14-day isolation.

Developments/activities carried out by Member State

- Under the guidance from HE the President, an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for COVID-19 preparedness and response actively engages National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) as co-lead together with MOH.
- The government has also established a “Travel Clinic” to extend services especially to returning Maldivians following international travel in the past 2 weeks.
- A drill was conducted by the Ministry of Health and NDMA jointly on 4th March 2020 to test SOPs developed if a suspected case was found in Maldives.
- The Government continues to closely monitor the worldwide situation for any revisions in their own SOPs and guidelines for screening, surveillance and management of cases.
- An awareness session targeted for students of Maldives National University MNU was conducted on the 27th of February 2020.
- Thermal Screening continues at all International airports in Maldives with no persons identified meeting the criteria for isolation. A total of 4423 travelers screened in last 24 hours.
- Awareness sessions ongoing having reached over 85,000 persons including health professionals, migrants and the public (including atolls).
- Regular HECC meetings are conducted by the Ministry of Health in addition to the 24*7 Incident Management System and EOC.

WCO activities

- Supported the staff at IGMH lab to conduct first laboratory testing on a Pneumonia sample for COVID19 which tested negative.
- Continue to share updated technical guidance and participate in HECC Meetings.

WHO support provided to Member State

- WCO continues to closely work and support MOH in their response to COVID-19 and Sitreps are shared daily and new technical documents immediately.

Support requested from SEARO

- Procurement of additional PPEs kits and Laboratory supplies to strengthen country capacity

Support/Coordination from SEARO and other agencies

- Needs assessment to upgrade IGMH Lab to BSL 3 level.